

## **The High Cost of Benefit Delivery Is the Price Right?**

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## **The High Cost of Delivering Benefits**

Good news on reform

- Medical trend is stabilizing
- No big surprises on RBRVS
- Fewer spine surgeries
- Fewer opioids

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## The High Cost of Delivering Benefits

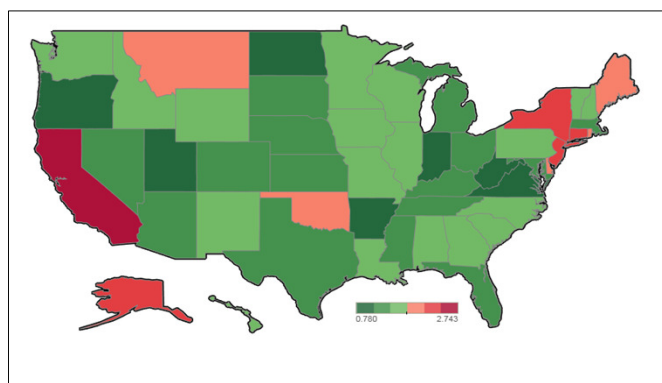
Not so good news:

- Rate
- Frequency
- Expenses

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## California within the National Landscape

Highest Rate



Source: Oregon Dept. of Business & Consumer Services Study 2016

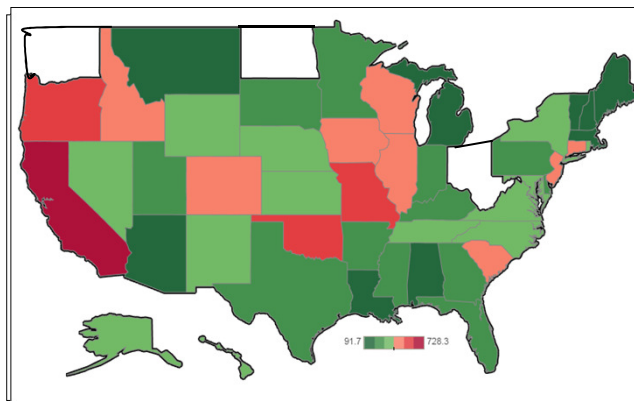
Avg. Average Rate per ..  
1.01 2.99

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## California within the National Landscape

### Highest frequency of Permanent Partial Disability



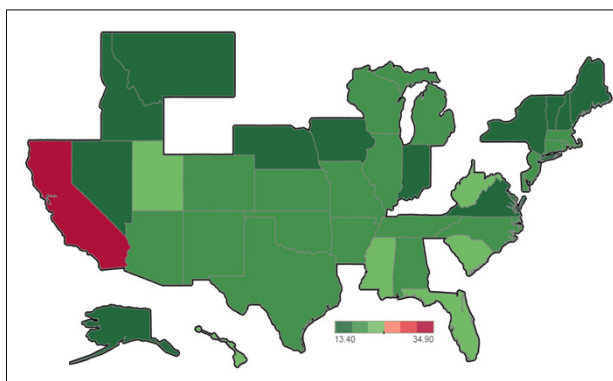
Source: NCCI 2016

Perm#\_Partial  
120.7 805.7

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## California within the National Landscape

### Highest Expenses



Source: NCCI 2016

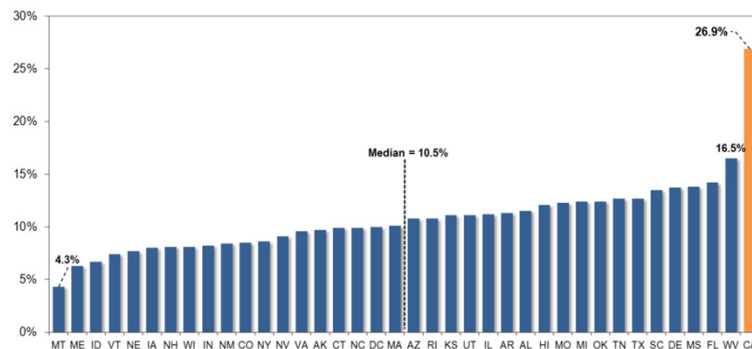
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## California within the National Landscape

### Highest Expenses

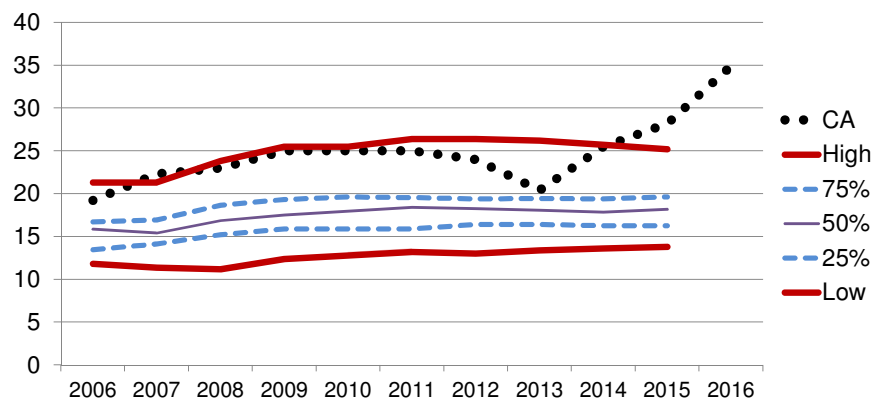
Ratios of ALAE to Losses by State



Source: NCCI 2016

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## Loss Adjustment Expense / Loss By State

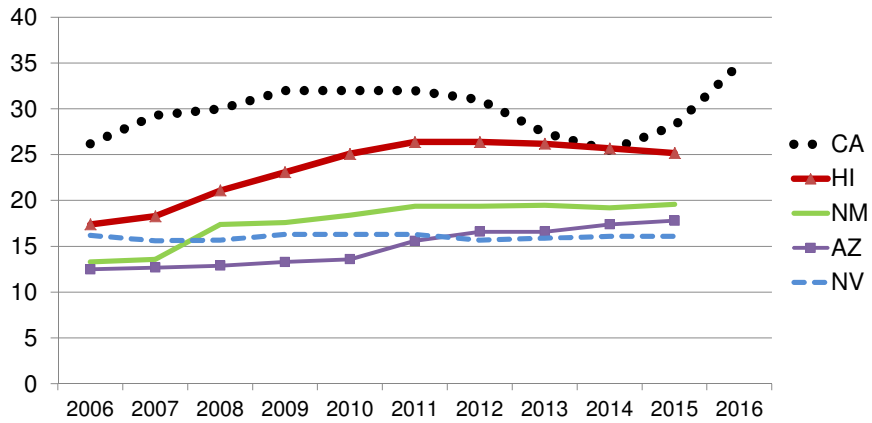


2015 & Prior: Reported by NCCI  
2016 California: WCIRB Rate Filing

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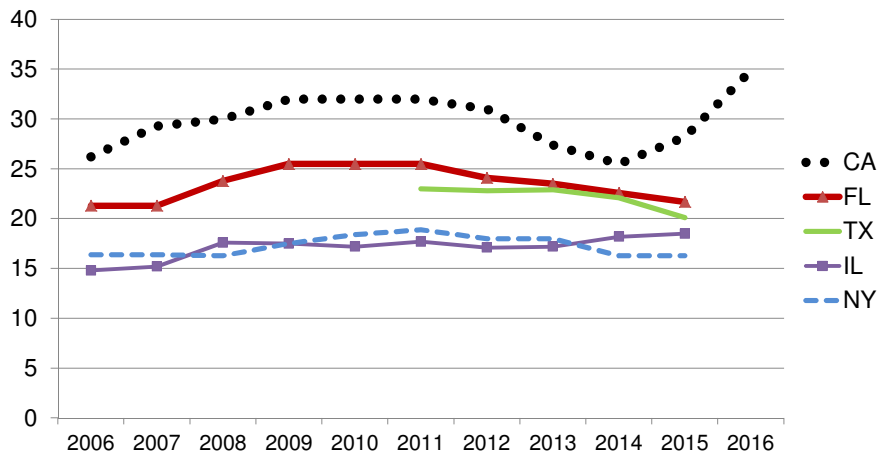
## Loss Adjustment Expense / Loss By Western States



2015 & Prior: Reported by NCCI  
2016 California: WCIRB Rate Filing

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## Loss Adjustment Expense / Loss By Large States

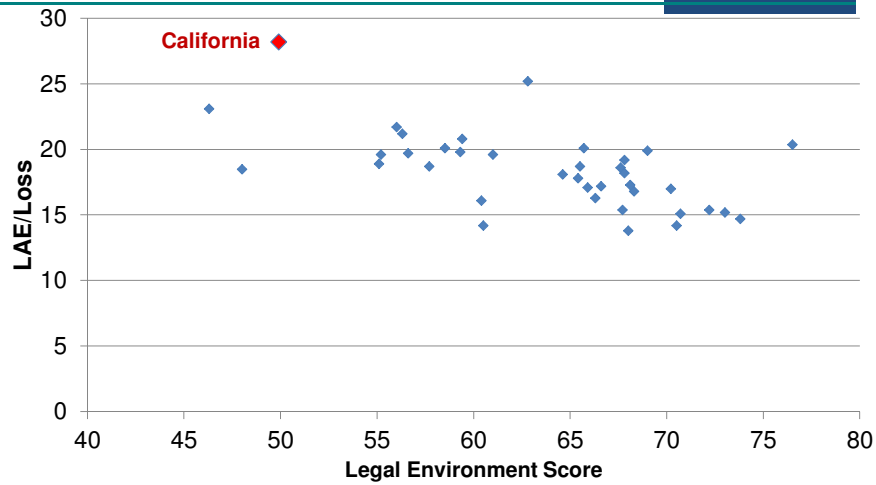


2015 & Prior: Reported by NCCI  
2016 California: WCIRB Rate Filing

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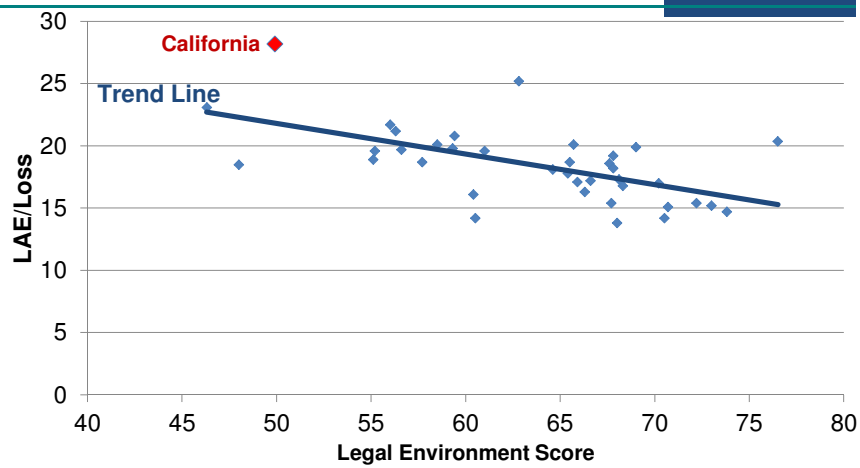
## Legal Environment and LAE



Source: Chamber of Commerce 2015 Lawsuit Climate Survey

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## Legal Environment and LAE

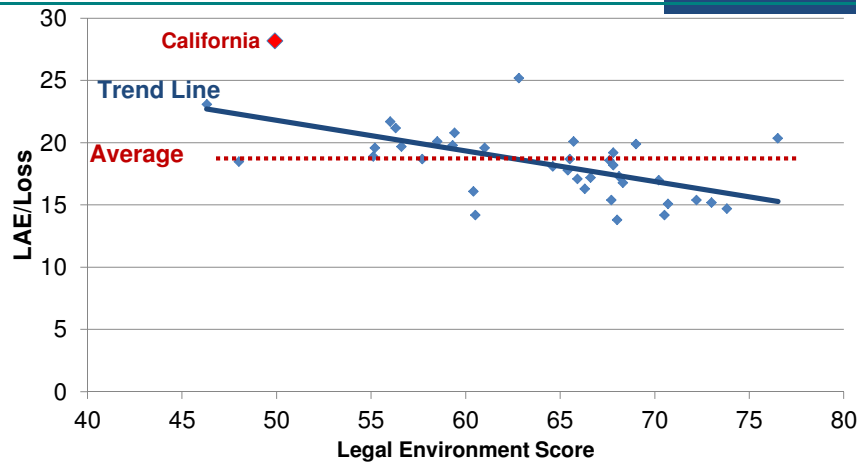


Legal Scores based on Chamber of Commerce 2015 Lawsuit Climate Survey

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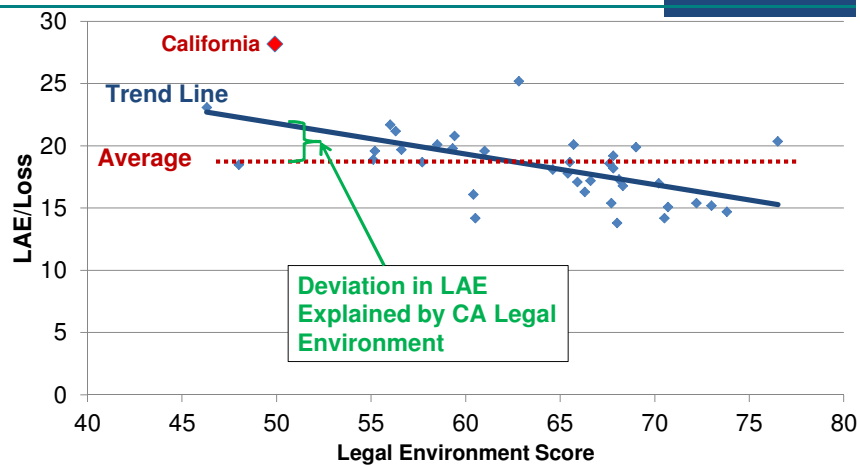
## Legal Environment and LAE



Legal Scores based on Chamber of Commerce 2015 Lawsuit Climate Survey

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## Legal Environment and LAE

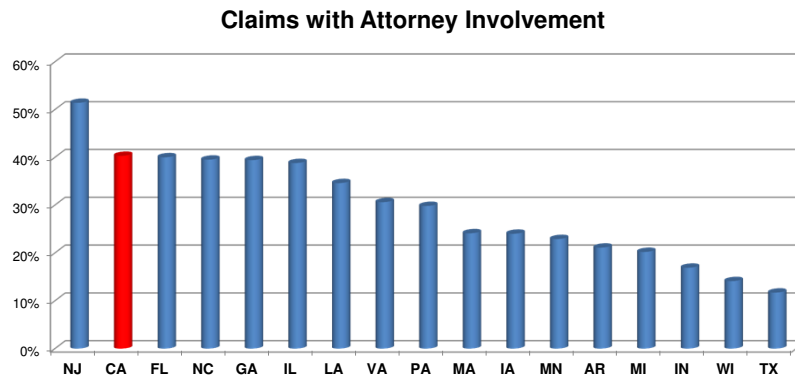


Legal Scores based on Chamber of Commerce 2015 Lawsuit Climate Survey

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## Claims with Attorney Involvement

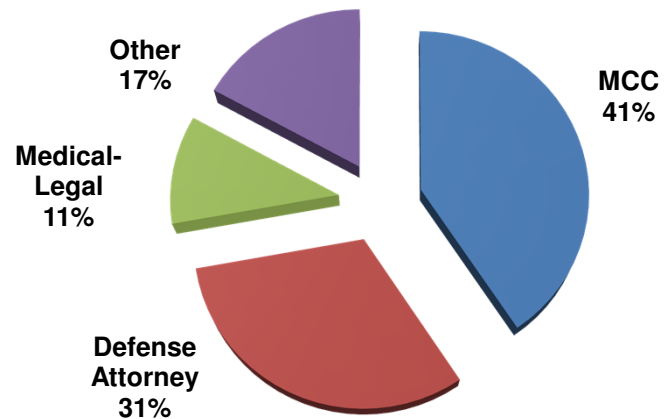


**California is #2**

Source: WCRI CompScope 2015

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## Breakdown of California “Benefit Delivery Expense”



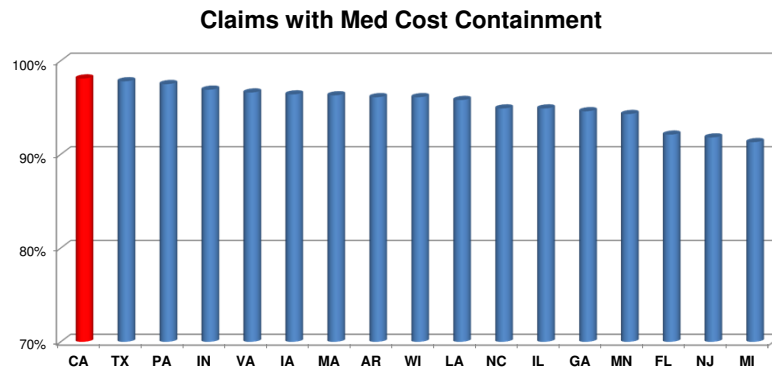
Other = App attorney, ancillary legal costs, admin assessments, etc.

WCRI CompScope for CA Edition 15 (2015)

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## Claims with Medical Cost Containment

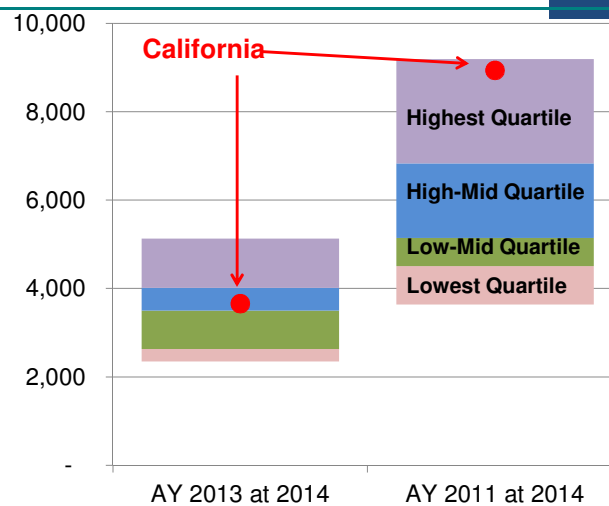


**California is #1**

Source: WCRI CompScope 2015

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## Benefit Delivery Costs Impact of "Development"

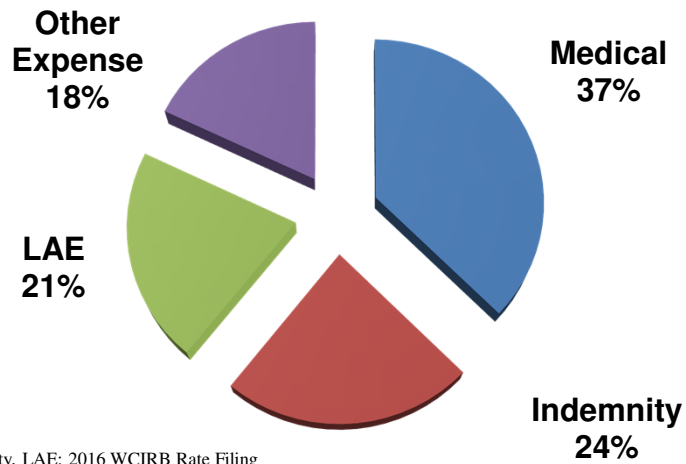


WCRI CompScope for CA Edition 15 (2015): 17 State Comparison

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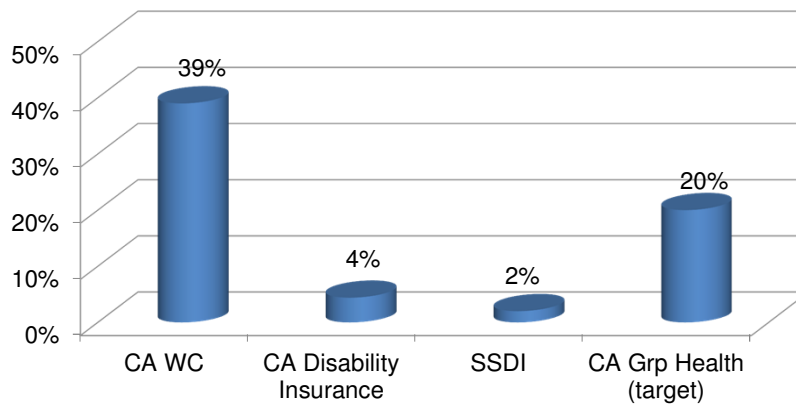
## Estimated 2016 Cost Split



Medical, Indemnity, LAE: 2016 WCIRB Rate Filing  
Other expenses: Based on % reported expense 2014

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## Comparison of Administrative Costs



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## Managing Medical Management

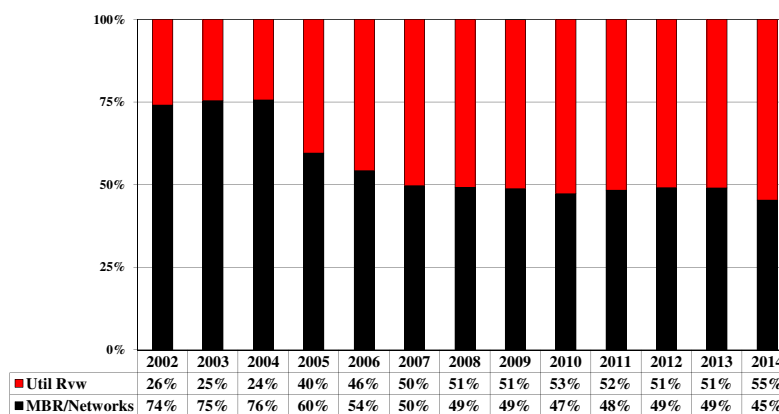
Why is California workers' comp medical hard to manage?

1. Size matters
2. Little shared risk in fee for service delivery:
  - Appropriate absence of supply and demand side controls such as co-payments and deductibles
3. Utilization Review is essential and costly
  - Much of UR is on high volume care
  - Without shared risk, it's about the only option
  - Can be further optimized
4. Disputes and dispute resolution
  - Before: Legal process, decisions by judges
  - Now: Evidence-based medicine and IMR

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## Components of Medical Cost Containment

Utilization Review, Medical Bill Review & Network Fees



Source: CWCI 2016

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## Public Policy History of Medical Care Delivery

### Setting the right type and level of care

#### California LC 4600

Treatment reasonably required to cure or relieve from the effects of injury  
now means treatment that is based on the MTUS

#### Presumption of Correctness (1994)

Conferred a presumption of correctness to the injured worker's PTP

#### Minniear Decision (1996)

PTP's presumption expanded to medical issues

#### Medical Treatment Utilization Schedule (2003)

DWC's evidence-based MTUS is presumed correct

#### SB 863 (2013)

Independent Medical Review.